GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3028
ANSWERED ON:05.09.2007
POOR SANITATION AS ENVIRONMENTAL PROBLEM
Nedurumalli Janardhana Reddy Shri

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether poor sanitation in Asia has created major environmental problems as reported in The Hindustan Times dated August 8, 2007; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Government thereto?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA)

(a) & (b) In a news report entitled "Bank faults Asia for poor sanitation" appeared in the Hindustan Times dated 8.8.2007 some observations were stated to have been made by Asian Development Bank, not specific to India but on lack of proper sanitation in Asia as a whole which leads to pollution of surface and ground water.

In addition to the works undertaken by the Ministry of Urban Development for improving sanitation, this Ministry is implementing two Centrally Sponsored Schemes namely, the National River Conservation Plan (NRCP) and National Lake Conservation Plan (NLCP) to tackle domestic pollution load in rivers and lakes of the country. The NLCP covers conservation/rejuvenation works in 46 lakes in 13 states with an approved cost of Rs. 567 crore. The NRCP covers 160 towns in 20 states with an approved cost of Rs. 4783 crore and the Pollution abatement measures undertaken under the Plan include Interception & Diversion (I&D), Sewage Treatment Plant (STP), Low Cost Sanitation (LCS) Electric and/or improved wood based crematoria, River Front Development (RFD) works such as improvement of bathing ghats and other activities like Afforestation, Public Participation etc. Among others, a total of 2924 million litres per day of sewage treatment capacity and 138 schemes of Low Cost Sanitation (LCS) have been completed under NRCP.